

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above, the time by which such a bank is likely to be set up does not arise.

393 Foreign Trade
High Level Committee on Improvements in Trade Policy

6087. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level Committee was constituted by the Government to make improvements in the trade policy;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the Committee;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (e). Yes, Sir. A High Powered Committee on Trade Policy has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Commerce Secretary. A copy of the terms of reference of the Committee is annexed. The Committee is to submit its final report by 30.6.1992.

393 Lending Policy of Banks in Punjab

6088. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Punjab banks told to review lending policy' appearing in The Hindustan Times dated August, 13 1991;

(b) if so, the fact thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The various administrative offices and branches of banks in Punjab have received threats from militants from time to time. Recently two bulletins were issued by some militants making various demands from the banks and their employees in Punjab. These demands mostly relate to the prevention of flow of deposit from Punjab to outside the State, use of Punjabi language in the working of the banks, recruitment of maximum number of Sikh youth in the banks, liberalised grant of loans to the poor persons in the State, etc. The news item referred to in part (a) repeats more or less these threats and demands.

(c) Government of India and the State Government have reviewed the situation with the banks. State Government and the banks have been alerted to take necessary precautionary measures.

394 Exploitation of Customers by Foreign Banks

6089. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has issued a show cause notice to the American Citibank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check exploitation of customers by foreign banks operating in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission have issued a Notice of Enquiry to M/s Citibank, New Delhi, in respect of a circular dated 20.2.91 issued by them. The enquiry has been instituted for charging 'service fee' from their customers which is a restrictive trade practice within the meaning of Section 20(0) of the MRTP Act, 1969. The Commission have also issued an injection notice to M/s Citibank directing them to explain as to why they may not be restrained from making deductions on account of service charges from the accounts of account holders who do not need additional facilities from the respondent bank.

(c) Whenever complaints are received Reserve Bank of India take up such complaints with the concerned bank for redressal.

395 *Government Service*
Revision of Pay Scales

6090. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of categories in the pre-revised scale of Rs.550-900 for which the pay scale of Rs.2000-3200 or Rs.2000-3000 was recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission and accepted by the Government;

(b) whether some more categories in the pre-revised scale of Rs.550-900 (revised scale Rs.1640-2900) have represented to the Government for revision of their pay scales from Rs.1640-2900 to Rs.2000-3200 or Rs.2000-3500 after the implementation of pay scales of Fourth Pay Commission by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details of categories to whom the revised scale of Rs.2000-3200 or Rs.2000-3500 have been granted so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) Full details of categories of posts in the pre-revised scale of Rs.550-900 for which revised scales of Rs.2000-3200/3500 were recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission and accepted by Government are contained in the Ministry of Finance Notification No. F.15(1)-IC/86, dated 22.9.1986.

(b) and (c). Representation received in this regard were examined and it was not found possible to revise the pay scale from Rs.1640-2900 to Rs.200-3200/3500.

[Translation] *Ans. received
396 Under Sharad
Area of Ghoshpur AIR-Strip*

6091. SHRI VISHWANATH SHAS-

TRI:

SHRI RAM BADAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area in acres of Goshpur air-strip in Ghazipur district;

(b) the existing area of the said air-strip;

(c) whether the Government are maintaining the air-strip; and

(d) whether the surplus land of the air-strip has been distributed or proposed to be distributed among the landless persons?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) There is no Ghoshpur air-strip in Ghazipur district under this Ministry.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.